POL 14 VIETS
(1029)

Department of State TELEGRAM

SECRET

EXCISE

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Sat. Jan 5 1968 9-6-17

PAGE 01 SAIGON 05025 061448Z

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ACTION SS 76

Handled London

INFO SSO 00,NSCE 00,DODE 00,CIAE 00,USIE 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,/070 W

O 061428Z SEP 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6329

Pol 14 Viets

S E C R E T SSIGON 5025

REF: A. STATE 32427 B. SAIGON 5024, C. SAIGON 5062

b-1 ed

1. DZU'S STATEMENTS [ ] (REF A) SHOULD BE READ IN LIGHT OF REF B AND C (COMMENTS BY DZU'S RUNNING MATE AND PHAN KHAC SUU). FOLLOWING IS OUR ADDITIONAL COMMENT ON [ ]

A. AS REPORTED EARLIER, WE HAVE OBSERVED ONLY A FEW ELECTION IRREGULARITIES, AND WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE THAT SUCH IRREGULARITIES COULD HAVE CHANGED THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION SIGNIFICANTLY. WE ALSOHT
UBT THERE IS A SUBSTANCE IN DZU'S
CHARGE THAT GVN PROVINCIAL OFFICIALSE REDUCED DZU'S TOTALS

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PAGE2 RUMJIR 5025 S E C R E T
BEFORE REPORTING THEM TO SAIGON.

B. SO FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, DZU DOFSSZOT HAVE THE MILITARY SUPPORT HE CLAIMS AND COULD NOT RPT NOT MOUT A MILITARY COUP.

C. DZU HAD AN ACTIVE AND APPARENTLY QUITE EFF45/S9&:
GVN
ORGANIZATION. HIS CLAIM OF 7900 CAMPAIGN WORKERS AND EX.
PENDITURES OF 40 MILLION PIASTERS COULD BE TRUE THOUGH WE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 12/24/81
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SECRET

PAGE 02 SAIGON 05025 061448Z

ARE INCLINED TO THINK THE FIGURES MAY BE INFLATED.

2. DZU IS CLEARLY TRYING TO UNITE THE OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT UNDER HIS OWN BANNER. WE EXPECT THAT SOME OTHER LEADERS SUCH AS SUU AND HUONG, WILL PROBABLY RESIST ACKNOWLEDGING DZU AS HEIR LEADER, THOUGH THEY MAY BE WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH HIM TO SOME EXTENT.

JM IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW SERIOUS DZU IS IN TRYING TO GET THE ELECTION DECLARED INVALID
ID& WE ALSO DO NOT RPT NOT YET HAVE A
CLEAR IDEA OF HOW FAR HE IS PREPARED TO GO IF HE FAILS TO GET ANOTHER ELECTION BY MEANS OF THE LEGAL PROCEDURES PROVIDED UNDER THE CONSTITUEION AND EHT ELECTORAL LAW. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH DZU, HIS SUPPORTERS, AND THE OTHER CANDIDATES IN AN EFFORTS TO GET A BETTER PICTURE OF THEIR INTENTIONS. IN

PAGE 3 RUMJIR 5025 S E C R E T
TALKING WITH THE DEFEATED CANDIDATES WE ARE STRESSING THE NEED TO USE THELEGAL MACHINERY AVAILABLE FOR ANY COMPLAINTS AND NOT TO IMPEDE BY THEIR ACTIONS THE PROGRESS TOWARD THE RULE OF LAW.

5. WE THINK THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE THAT DZU, EVEN WITH THE HELP OF THE OTHER CANDIDATES, CAN GET THE ASSEMBLY TO DECLARE THE ELECTIN INVALID. WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH KEY ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES AND WILL STRESS TO THEM THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT RPT NOT DISCREDITING THE ELECTION AND THE NEW GOVERNMENT UNLESS THERE IS SOME REAL EVIDENCE THAT ELECTION IRREGULARITEIS COULD HAVE CHANGED THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION.

GP-3
BUNKER

NOTE: HANDLE AS LIMDIS PER S/S-O.

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